

# West Virginia

## at a glance

A quick look at West Virginia's financial information  
for the citizens



**[www.wvCheckbook.gov](http://www.wvCheckbook.gov)**

Inside you will find information on:

WV Economic Snapshot.....pages 2-6

WV Economy at a Glance

State versus National Unemployment Rates

Education Statistics

Natural Resources

Public Health

Public Safety

Transportation

For more information please visit us at **[www.wvsao.gov](http://www.wvsao.gov)**



## SNAPSHOT

## A MONTHLY UPDATE OF THE FIFTH DISTRICT ECONOMY

February 2018

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF RICHMOND

### WEST VIRGINIA

#### February Summary

Economic conditions in West Virginia were somewhat improved in recent months as payroll employment rose and housing market indicators were mostly positive; however, the unemployment rate rose slightly.

**Labor Markets:** Employers in West Virginia added 400 jobs (0.1 percent), on net, to payrolls in December. The professional and business services industry added the most jobs in the month (800 jobs), followed by construction (600 jobs), and mining and logging (400 jobs). Conversely, the largest declines were reported in trade, transportation, and utilities (800 jobs) and government (400 jobs). Since December 2016, total payroll employment in West Virginia grew 0.2 percent, which was the slowest growth rate in the Fifth District. The construction industry reported the largest year-over-year growth rate of 8.5 percent (2,600 jobs) while the educational and health services industry added the most jobs (3,000 jobs). On the downside, the largest job loss was reported in trade, transportation, and utilities, which cut 4,000 jobs since last December.

**Household Conditions:** The unemployment rate in West Virginia increased 0.2 percentage point to 5.5 percent in December. The number of unemployed increased 3.9 percent in the month while the labor force edged up 0.4 percent. The labor force participation rate edged up to 53.4 percent in December. In the third quarter of 2017, the share of mortgages in West Virginia with payments 90 or more days past due ticked up 0.1 percentage point to 1.5 percent. Delinquency rates for fixed and adjustable rate conventional loans also increased in the third quarter to 1.3 percent and 2.7 percent, respectively. Also in the third quarter, real personal income in West Virginia rose 0.2 percent and increased 0.1 percent since the third quarter of 2016.

**Housing Markets:** West Virginia issued 197 new residential permits in December, up from 160 permits in November and up from 151 permits issued in December 2016. Among the state's metro areas, permitting activity picked up in the Charleston and Huntington MSAs in the month and on a year-over-year basis. Housing starts in West Virginia totaled 2,700 in December, a 17.6 percent increase from the prior month and a 41.2 percent increase from December 2016. According to CoreLogic Information Solutions, home values in West Virginia depreciated 0.2 percent in November but appreciated 3.5 percent on a year-over-year basis. At the metro-level, house prices only rose in Parkersburg in the month and in Charlestown and Morgantown on a year-over-year basis.

#### A Closer Look at... Unemployment Insurance Claims

**Initial Claims (December 2017):** 6,396 claims

**Year-over-year Percent Change (December 2017):** -14.1 percent

#### Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed (December 2017)

**Sex:**

Male (68.8%), Female (31.2%), Not Reported (0.0%)

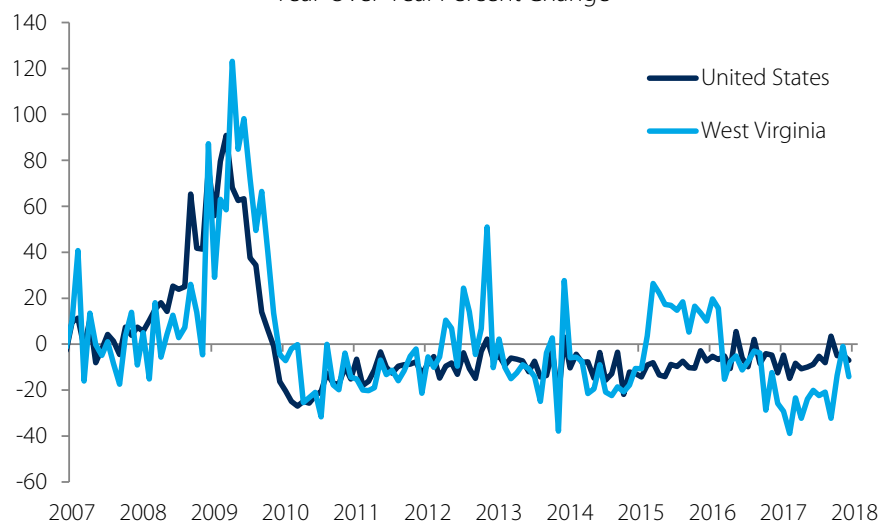
**Race:**

White (86.8%), Black (4.2%), Asian (0.3%), Native Alaskan or American (0.3%), Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (0.1%), Not Reported (8.2%)

**Hispanic or Latino:**

Hispanic or Latino (1.5%), Not Hispanic or Latino (86.2%), Not Reported (12.3%)

West Virginia Initial Unemployment Claims  
Year-Over-Year Percent Change



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## WEST VIRGINIA

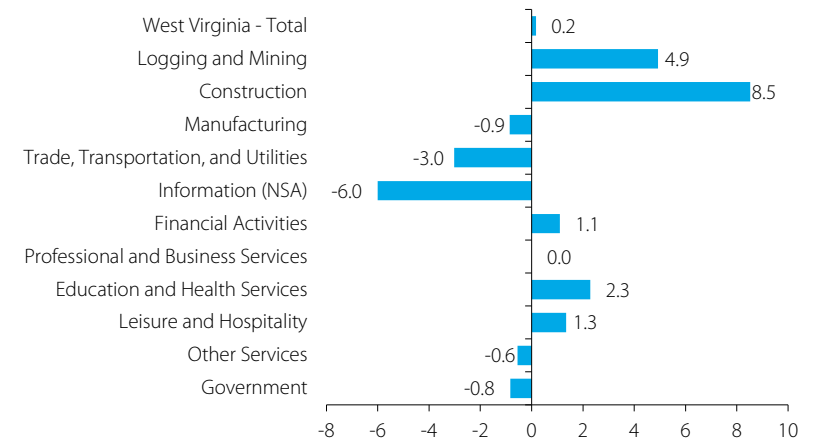
### Labor Market Conditions

Payroll Employment (SA)	Period	Level (000s)	MoM % Change	YoY % Change
United States - Total	December	147,380.0	0.10	1.41
Fifth District - Total	December	14,847.3	-0.03	1.31
West Virginia - Total	December	748.1	0.05	0.17
Logging and Mining	December	21.3	1.91	4.93
Construction	December	33.1	1.85	8.52
Manufacturing	December	46.0	0.00	-0.86
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	December	128.2	-0.62	-3.03
Information (NSA)	December	9.4	-1.05	-6.00
Financial Activities	December	27.5	0.36	1.10
Professional and Business Services	December	64.6	1.25	0.00
Education and Health Services	December	134.2	-0.22	2.29
Leisure and Hospitality	December	75.6	-0.13	1.34
Other Services	December	53.8	0.37	-0.55
Government	December	154.5	-0.26	-0.83

Metro Payroll Employment (NSA)	Period	Level (000s)	YoY % Change
Beckley MSA - Total	December	44.1	-1.56
Charleston MSA - Total	December	120.3	0.92
Huntington MSA - Total	December	139.8	0.22
Morgantown MSA - Total	December	72.8	1.11
Parkersburg MSA - Total	December	40.2	-2.19

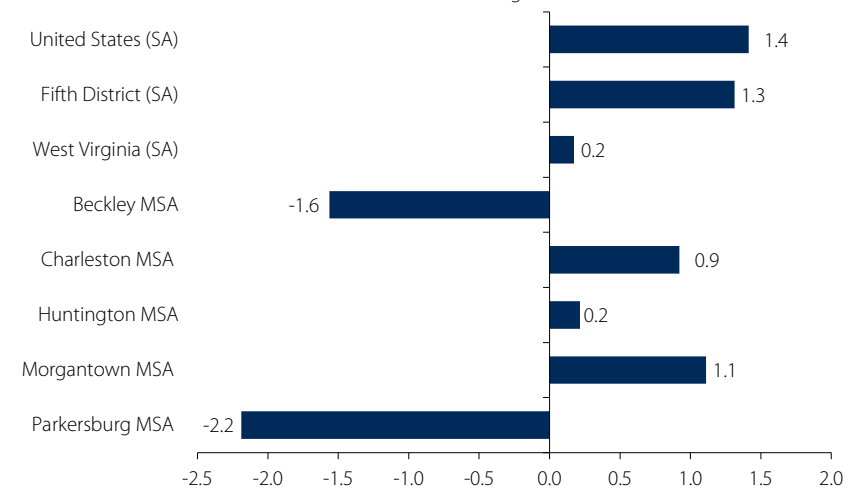
### West Virginia Payroll Employment Performance

Year-over-Year Percent Change in December 2017



### West Virginia Total Employment Performance

Year-over-Year Percent Change in December 2017



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FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF RICHMOND

## WEST VIRGINIA

### Labor Market Conditions

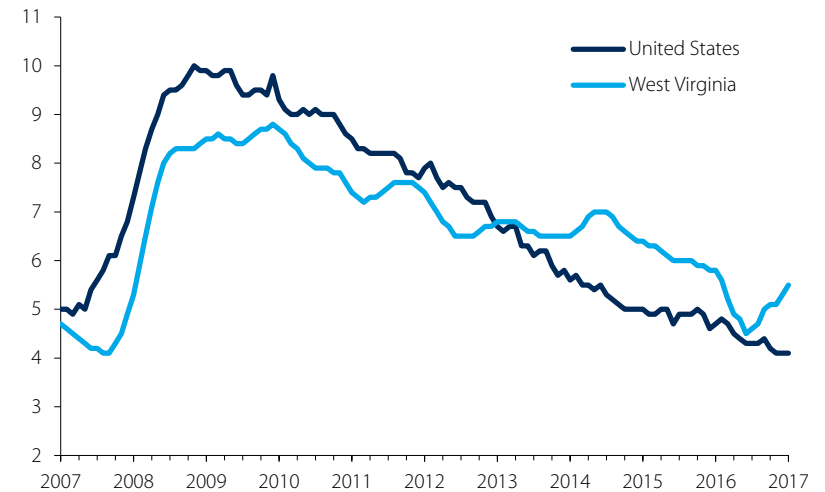
Unemployment Rate (SA)	December 17	November 17	December 16
United States	4.1	4.1	4.7
Fifth District	4.2	4.1	4.6
West Virginia	5.5	5.3	5.8
Beckley MSA	6.3	6.2	6.3
Charleston MSA	5.8	5.5	5.3
Huntington MSA	5.7	5.6	5.8
Morgantown MSA	4.4	4.2	4.2
Parkersburg MSA	6.2	5.8	5.5

Civilian Labor Force (SA)	Period	Level (000s)	MoM % Change	YoY % Change
United States	December	160,597	0.04	0.54
Fifth District	December	15,997	-0.21	0.95
West Virginia	December	783	0.39	0.06
Beckley MSA	December	44	0.45	-1.55
Charleston MSA	December	97	0.73	1.14
Huntington MSA	December	147	0.55	1.10
Morgantown MSA	December	68	0.45	1.81
Parkersburg MSA	December	38	1.05	-1.03

Initial Unemployment Claims (NSA)	Period	Level	MoM % Change	YoY % Change
United States	December	1,309,894	17.36	-7.06
Fifth District	December	73,072	30.08	-14.03
West Virginia	December	6,396	12.23	-14.14

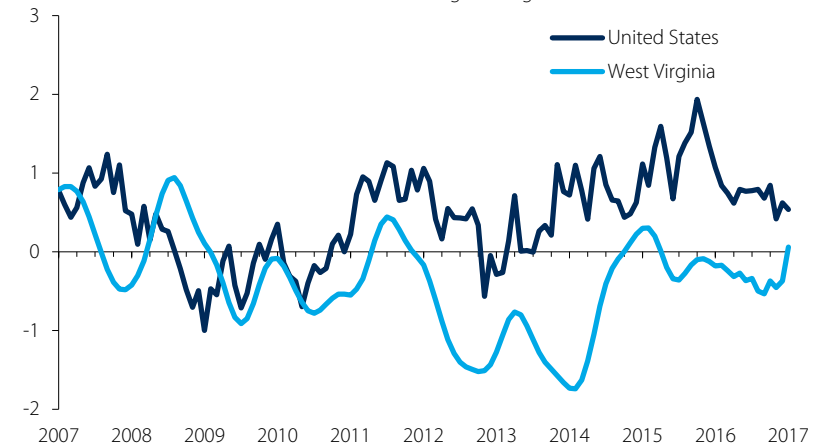
West Virginia Unemployment Rate

Through December 2017



West Virginia Labor Force

Year-over-Year Percent Change through December 2017



# SNAPSHOT

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## WEST VIRGINIA

### Household Conditions

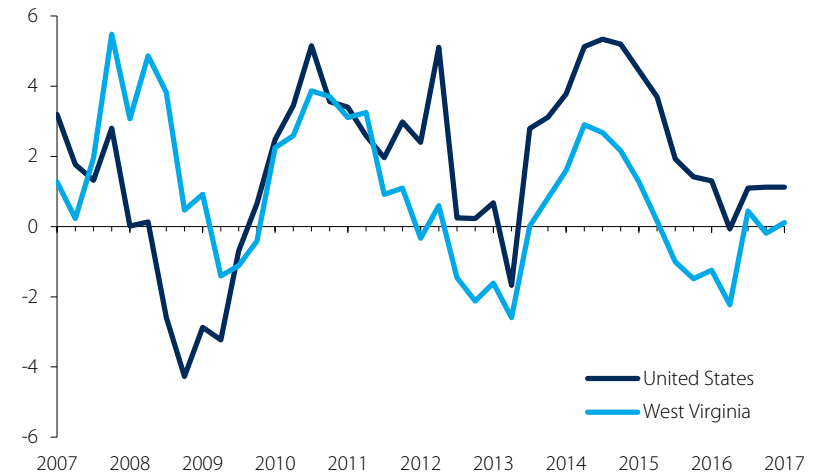
Real Personal Income (SA)	Period	Level (\$mil)	QoQ % Change	YoY % Change
United States	Q3:17	14,581,663	0.29	1.12
Fifth District	Q3:17	1,413,529	0.28	1.48
West Virginia	Q3:17	60,713	0.20	0.11

Non-Business Bankruptcies	Period	Level	QoQ % Change	YoY % Change
United States	Q4:17	176,728	-6.76	-0.91
Fifth District	Q4:17	6,018	-60.95	-59.01
West Virginia	Q4:17	0	0.00	0.00

Mortgage Delinquencies (% 90+ Days Delinquent)	Q3:17	Q2:17	Q3:16
United States			
All Mortgages	1.29	1.20	1.41
Conventional - Fixed Rate	0.98	0.92	1.05
Conventional - Adjustable Rate	2.17	2.12	2.57
West Virginia			
All Mortgages	1.52	1.43	1.54
Conventional - Fixed Rate	1.27	1.19	1.23
Conventional - Adjustable Rate	2.70	2.34	3.00

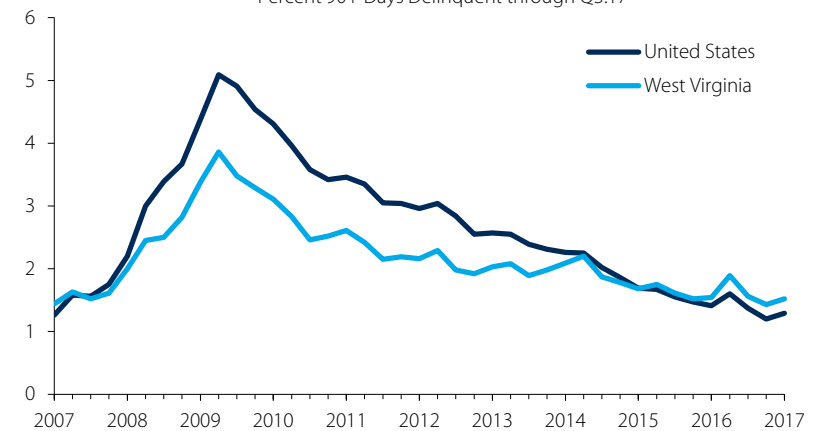
West Virginia Real Personal Income

Year-over-Year Percent Change through Q3:17



West Virginia Mortgage Delinquencies

Percent 90+ Days Delinquent through Q3:17



# SNAPSHOT

# A MONTHLY UPDATE OF THE FIFTH DISTRICT ECONOMY

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FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF RICHMOND

## WEST VIRGINIA

### Real Estate Conditions

Permits: New Private Housing Units (NSA)	Period	Level	MoM % Change	YoY % Change
United States	December	93,054	-4.03	1.80
Fifth District	December	10,056	-25.17	3.14
West Virginia	December	197	23.13	30.46
Charleston MSA	December	10	27.78	27.78
Huntington MSA	December	22	100.00	120.00
Morgantown MSA	December	0	-100.00	-100.00
Parkersburg MSA	December	2	-60.00	-60.00

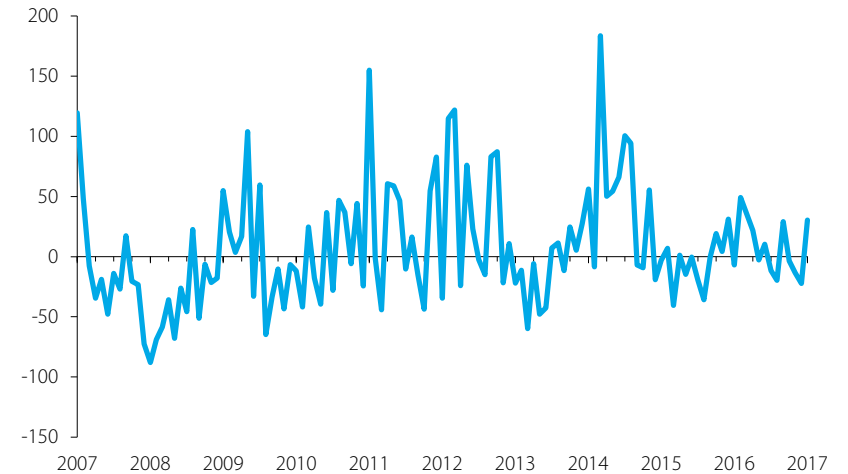
Total Private Housing Starts (SAAR)	Period	Level (000s)	MoM % Change	YoY % Change
United States	December	1,192	-8.24	-5.99
Fifth District	December	140	-28.35	11.83
West Virginia	December	2.7	17.60	41.24

House Price Index (2000=100)	Period	Level	MoM % Change	YoY % Change
United States	November	196	0.96	6.97
Fifth District	November	196	0.28	4.10
West Virginia	November	164	-0.22	3.46
Charleston MSA	November	141	-0.22	0.27
Huntington MSA	November	149	-0.22	-1.71
Morgantown MSA	November	187	-0.22	7.27
Parkersburg MSA	November	142	1.77	-4.04

Median Home Sales Price - NAR (NSA)	Period	Level (\$000s)	QoQ % Change	YoY % Change
Charleston MSA	Q3:17	138	-0.14	-2.61

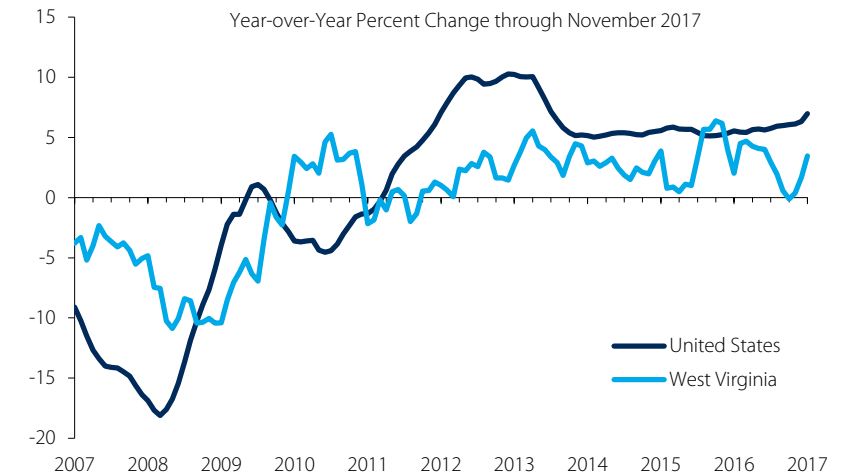
### West Virginia New Housing Units

Year-over-Year Percent Change through December 2017



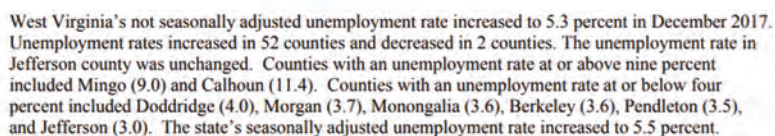
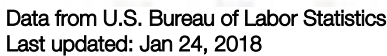
### West Virginia House Price Index (CoreLogic)

Year-over-Year Percent Change through November 2017





## A collage of images representing data and technology. It features server racks, city lights at night, and abstract line graphs overlaid on a dark background. The colors are predominantly blue, green, and yellow, creating a high-tech, digital atmosphere.



## High School Graduation Gains Equal Economic Success

If West Virginia increased its overall graduation rate to 90 percent, the economic benefits from these **4,300** additional graduates would likely include as much as

- **\$42 million** in increased annual earnings and **\$2.5 million** in annual state and local tax revenues;
- **300** new jobs and a **\$52 million** increase in the gross state product; and
- **\$63 million** in increased home sales and **\$4.4 million** in increased auto sales.<sup>1</sup>

## Progress Has Been Made, But Graduation Gaps Remain

**Despite Gains, Not All Students Are Graduating from High School at the Same Rates ...**

*High School Graduation Rates by Race (Class of 2011)<sup>2</sup>*

	All Students	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian
WV	76%	77%	72%	71%	91%	‡
Nation (Avg.)	79%	85%	67%	71%	87%	64%

‡ Insufficient or no data

## ... and Even Fewer Are Graduating from College

*Four-Year<sup>3</sup> College Graduation Rates<sup>3</sup>*

	All Students	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	American Indian
West Virginia*	46%	48%	27%	36%	46%	38%
Nation*	56%	60%	38%	48%	68%	39%

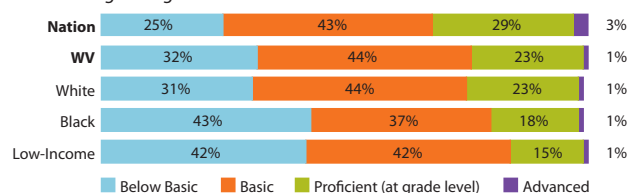
<sup>1</sup>Due to data limitations for two-year institutions, particularly as they relate to students who transfer from their first institution, two-year college graduation rates have been omitted.

\*Graduation within six years of entrance (Cohort from 2005 to 2011)

## Better Preparation Is Key for Success in College and a Career

**Literacy Is an Underlying Problem for Many Students**

*School Year (SY) 2010–11 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Reading Scores for West Virginia Eighth Graders<sup>4</sup>*



Insufficient or no data was reported for other subgroups

## ... and They Also Struggle in Other Subject Areas

*Percentage of ACT-Tested Graduates Ready for College-Level Course Work in 2012<sup>5</sup>*

	English	Math	Reading	Science	All Four Subjects
WV	70%	33%	53%	25%	19%
Nation	67%	46%	52%	31%	25%

## Commitment Is Paying Off, But Struggling Schools Remain

About 10% of all high schools still produce 40%+ of the nation's dropouts. In these "dropout factories," 60% or fewer of freshmen are promoted to senior year on time. Nationally, students of color and Native students are nearly four times more likely than their white peers to be enrolled in a dropout factory.<sup>6</sup> **Improving these schools must remain a national priority.**

### West Virginia High Schools

Federally Reported High Schools <sup>7</sup>	105 (SY 2009–10)	109 (SY 2010–11)
Dropout Factories <sup>8</sup>	2 (3 yr avg. 2008–10)	4 (Class of 2011)

An additional 15 high schools in West Virginia had a promoting power between 60 and 70 percent in SY 2010–11.<sup>9</sup>

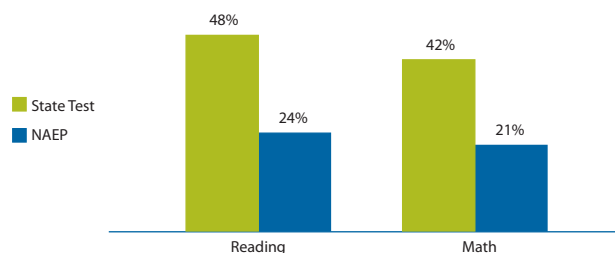
Nationally, the number of dropout factories decreased 12% (from 1,617 to 1,424).<sup>10</sup> The number of all high schools decreased less than 1% from SY 2009–10 to SY 2010–11.<sup>11</sup>

## States Are Strengthening Standards to Improve Preparedness

West Virginia, along with 45 states and the District of Columbia, has adopted a common, state-created set of world-class standards for college and career readiness in English language arts and math. The four remaining states have their own college- and career-ready standards.

## More Accurate Measures of Student Proficiency Are Needed

**West Virginia's Eighth-Grade Proficiency as Measured by State Test vs. the Nation's Report Card (NAEP) for SY 2011–12<sup>12</sup>**



Nationwide, the average gaps between state- and NAEP-reported **reading** and **math** scores are **40 percentage points** and **32 percentage points**, respectively.

## States Are Working to Create New and Better Assessments

Forty-two states participate in one of two consortia to develop Common Core State Standards-aligned next-generation assessments, which are scheduled to be administered during SY 2014–15. **West Virginia participates in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.**

## Excellent Teacher Training Is Critical to Increased Student Achievement

To promote higher levels of student achievement, 27 states have committed to educating and preparing better teachers and administrators through **teacher licensing, program accreditation, and effective data use policies**. **West Virginia has not joined this coalition of states focusing on educator preparation and entry into the profession.**<sup>13</sup>

## Connecting Technology to Schools and Students

Having access to a broadband network—connectivity—is crucial to taking advantage of the world of technology and what it offers in the classroom. West Virginia does have a statewide broadband network for its schools.<sup>14</sup>

The use of technology lends flexibility to schools and classrooms. West Virginia does allow additional flexibility by permitting schools to use funding for instructional materials on digital resources.<sup>15</sup>

## The Next Frontier: Deepen and Personalize Learning

Today's modern economy requires more than basic content knowledge. Leading states are building an engaging and personalized education process to achieve deeper learning outcomes of core content knowledge, creative and critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

To foster such learning, school districts like Colorado's Adams County School District 50, and even entire states, like New Hampshire and Oregon, permit students to advance their grade level based on mastery of content rather than on amount of time spent in the classroom.

1) Alliance, "The Crisis and Economic Potential in America's Education System," 2011; 2) U.S. Dept. of Education, "Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rates"; 3) National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 2012; 4) NCES, *Nation's Report Card: Reading 2011*; 5) ACT, "The Condition of College and Career Readiness: 2012," 6) Analysis of data from Everyone Graduates Center and NCES Common Core of Data; 7) NCES, *Public Elementary/Secondary School Universe, 2005–2011*, 2012; 8) Unpublished data from Everyone Graduates Center at Johns Hopkins University, 2013; 9) Ibid.; 10) Ibid.; 11) NCES, *Public Elementary/Secondary School Universe, 2005–2011*, 2012; 12) NCES, *Nation's Report Card: Reading 2011*; NCES, *Nation's Report Card: Math 2011*; West Virginia Department of Education, 2013; 13) Council of Chief State School Officers, *Our Responsibility, Our Promise*, 2012; 14) State Educational Technology Directors Association State Education Policy Center, 2012; 15) Digital Learning Now!, "2012 Digital Learning Report Card," 2012



**PROFILE OF SNAP HOUSEHOLDS***West Virginia Congressional District 1*

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the cornerstone of the Nation's nutrition assistance safety net. Benefits are available to most people who meet the financial and nonfinancial requirements, and the program serves a broad spectrum of low income people. In Fiscal Year 2016, SNAP provided about \$.50 billion dollars in food benefits to a monthly average of 357,531 people in West Virginia. The program served 85.4 percent of those eligible for benefits in West Virginia in 2015. SNAP also has an economic multiplier effect; every dollar in new SNAP benefits results in \$1.80 in total economic activity.

The American Community Survey provides a snapshot of SNAP participants in 2016 for each Congressional District. More detailed information for the Nation and each State is presented in *Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2016*, available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/ops/research-and-analysis>.

**West Virginia Congressional District 1**

Characteristic	Households Receiving SNAP	Households not Receiving SNAP	Total
Total Households	36,169	203,872	240,041
With one or more people 60 years and over	32.0%	45.1%	43.1%
With child(ren) under 18 years	42.6%	22.8%	25.8%
With disabled individual(s)	56.3%	28.3%	32.5%
<b>Income and Poverty Status in the past 12 Months<sup>1</sup></b>			
Below poverty level	54.6%	9.5%	16.3%
Median income (2016 dollars)	\$18,059	\$52,399	\$45,611
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin of Householder</b>			
White	92.8%	96.2%	95.7%
Black or African American	4.2%	1.7%	2.0%
American Indian and Alaska Native	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A
Some other race	N/A	N/A	N/A
Two or more races	2.6%	.8%	1.1%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1.6%	.8%	.9%
<b>Work Status</b>			
Families	21,933	128,097	150,030
No workers in the past 12 months	27.5%	20.8%	21.8%
1 worker in the past 12 months	50.2%	31.8%	34.5%
2 or more workers in the past 12 months	22.2%	47.4%	43.7%

Source: USDA FNS SNAP Program Data (downloaded October 2017), Reaching Those in Need: Estimates of State SNAP Participation Rates (forthcoming); U.S. Census Bureau 2016 American Community Survey (ACS), using 115<sup>th</sup> Congressional District boundaries.

<sup>1</sup> The ACS bases poverty status on annual household income; SNAP eligibility is based on monthly income. Due to this difference in reference periods, poverty status in the ACS may differ from poverty status at the time of SNAP certification.

**PROFILE OF SNAP HOUSEHOLDS***West Virginia Congressional District 2*

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the cornerstone of the Nation's nutrition assistance safety net. Benefits are available to most people who meet the financial and nonfinancial requirements, and the program serves a broad spectrum of low income people. In Fiscal Year 2016, SNAP provided about \$.50 billion dollars in food benefits to a monthly average of 357,531 people in West Virginia. The program served 85.4 percent of those eligible for benefits in West Virginia in 2015. SNAP also has an economic multiplier effect; every dollar in new SNAP benefits results in \$1.80 in total economic activity.

The American Community Survey provides a snapshot of SNAP participants in 2016 for each Congressional District. More detailed information for the Nation and each State is presented in *Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2016*, available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/ops/research-and-analysis>.

**West Virginia Congressional District 2**

Characteristic	Households Receiving SNAP	Households not Receiving SNAP	Total
Total Households	37,169	207,995	245,164
With one or more people 60 years and over	32.2%	45.1%	43.1%
With child(ren) under 18 years	43.6%	26.3%	28.9%
With disabled individual(s)	50.4%	30.1%	33.2%
<b>Income and Poverty Status in the past 12 Months<sup>1</sup></b>			
Below poverty level	53.5%	8.3%	15.2%
Median income (2016 dollars)	\$17,297	\$55,254	\$48,358
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin of Householder</b>			
White	89.5%	93.5%	92.9%
Black or African American	7.5%	4.2%	4.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1.6%	.1%	.3%
Asian	.2%	1.0%	.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A
Some other race	.5%	.3%	.3%
Two or more races	.7%	.9%	.9%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1.2%	1.0%	1.0%
<b>Work Status</b>			
Families	23,552	137,005	160,557
No workers in the past 12 months	33.4%	19.3%	21.4%
1 worker in the past 12 months	42.7%	31.9%	33.5%
2 or more workers in the past 12 months	23.9%	48.7%	45.1%

Source: USDA FNS SNAP Program Data (downloaded October 2017), Reaching Those in Need: Estimates of State SNAP Participation Rates (forthcoming); U.S. Census Bureau 2016 American Community Survey (ACS), using 115<sup>th</sup> Congressional District boundaries.

<sup>1</sup> The ACS bases poverty status on annual household income; SNAP eligibility is based on monthly income. Due to this difference in reference periods, poverty status in the ACS may differ from poverty status at the time of SNAP certification.

**PROFILE OF SNAP HOUSEHOLDS***West Virginia Congressional District 3*

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the cornerstone of the Nation's nutrition assistance safety net. Benefits are available to most people who meet the financial and nonfinancial requirements, and the program serves a broad spectrum of low income people. In Fiscal Year 2016, SNAP provided about \$.50 billion dollars in food benefits to a monthly average of 357,531 people in West Virginia. The program served 85.4 percent of those eligible for benefits in West Virginia in 2015. SNAP also has an economic multiplier effect; every dollar in new SNAP benefits results in \$1.80 in total economic activity.

The American Community Survey provides a snapshot of SNAP participants in 2016 for each Congressional District. More detailed information for the Nation and each State is presented in *Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2016*, available at <http://www.fns.usda.gov/ops/research-and-analysis>.

**West Virginia Congressional District 3**

Characteristic	Households Receiving SNAP	Households not Receiving SNAP	Total
Total Households	55,650	181,270	236,920
With one or more people 60 years and over	30.2%	51.2%	46.3%
With child(ren) under 18 years	43.0%	23.8%	28.3%
With disabled individual(s)	58.8%	38.9%	43.6%
<b>Income and Poverty Status in the past 12 Months<sup>1</sup></b>			
Below poverty level	57.3%	10.2%	21.3%
Median income (2016 dollars)	\$14,893	\$46,110	\$37,728
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin of Householder</b>			
White	93.9%	94.9%	94.7%
Black or African American	3.9%	3.3%	3.4%
American Indian and Alaska Native	N/A	N/A	N/A
Asian	.1%	.6%	.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A
Some other race	.7%	.3%	.4%
Two or more races	1.3%	.8%	.9%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	.5%	.6%	.5%
<b>Work Status</b>			
Families	37,002	119,807	156,809
No workers in the past 12 months	38.2%	23.6%	27.1%
1 worker in the past 12 months	44.5%	35.1%	37.3%
2 or more workers in the past 12 months	17.3%	41.3%	35.6%

Source: USDA FNS SNAP Program Data (downloaded October 2017), Reaching Those in Need: Estimates of State SNAP Participation Rates (forthcoming); U.S. Census Bureau 2016 American Community Survey (ACS), using 115<sup>th</sup> Congressional District boundaries.

<sup>1</sup> The ACS bases poverty status on annual household income; SNAP eligibility is based on monthly income. Due to this difference in reference periods, poverty status in the ACS may differ from poverty status at the time of SNAP certification.



Thank you for visiting West Virginia at a glance. We will update this document as data becomes available to us. If you have question or concerns, please contact the West Virginia State Auditor's Office 304.558.2251 or toll free 1.877.982.9148.  
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